SPAWN
TODD MCFARLANE
CARLO BARBERI
image
320
DIGITAL EDITION
PART OF THE NEW SPAWN UNIVERSE TITLES!

WORLD RECORD BREAKING COMIC!

SPAWN

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PREVIOUSLY IN *SPAWN*

Cy-Gor was taken prisoner by the enigmatic Jericho. Spawn, determined not to lose another ally in his war seeks to free him, only to be challenged by the mysterious Soul Crusher!

image

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PRODUCTIONS
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"IT FEELS LIKE I'VE BEEN AT WAR ***MY ENTIRE LIFE.*** AS A KID, I LIVED WHERE YOUR SKIN COLOR DETERMINED EVERYTHING ABOUT YOU... YOUR EDUCATION, YOUR JOB--ANY HOPE TO ADVANCE WAS CONSTANTLY BEING BLOCKED.
"THOSE DOING THE BLOCKING WERE ALWAYS BLIND TO THEIR OWN ACTIONS.
"THE ONLY ESCAPE FROM IT, AT LEAST THE ONLY THING THAT MADE SENSE TO ME, WAS JOINING THE MILITARY. THOUGH I'VE OFTEN WONDERED IF THINGS WOULD HAVE BEEN DIFFERENT IF I HADN'T DONE THAT.
"BUT IT'S FAR TOO LATE FOR THAT.
"IN THE MILITARY...THE ARMY...I ACTUALLY WAS AT WAR...LITERALLY. HELPING TO PROTECT OUR COUNTRY. THEN THEY BROUGHT ME CLOSER INTO THEIR GAME. MOST OF THE BLACK OPS WE WERE DOING WERE BULLSHIT MISSIONS BASED ON SHIFTING LOYALTIES AND PURE GREED."

"I HAD TO FIGHT MY OWN COMMANDERS THEN. THAT'S HOW I GOT KILLED. FIGHTING FOR MY COUNTRY, THEN FIGHTING THOSE WHO RAN IT.

"SO, I UNDERSTAND THE RAGE RUNNING THROUGH CY-GOR AND WHY SCREAMING AT THE TOP OF YOUR LUNGS IS THE ONLY WAY TO **RELEASE** THAT ANGER!

"HE'S BEEN HUNTED AND PERSECUTED, LIKE ME, FOR MERELY EXISTING. THEY KILLED HIM ONCE...AND MAYBE I SHOULD HAVE LEFT HIM THAT WAY. IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN THE ONLY TIME HE WAS EVER AT PEACE. BUT I DIDN'T. I RESURRECTED HIM FOR MY NEEDS, I NEVER GAVE HIM **A CHOICE!**

"WHY? WHY WOULD I DO THAT?

"BECAUSE OF THE **WARS** I NOW FIGHT AS SPAWN.

"I THOUGHT CY-GOR COULD HELP WITH THAT...

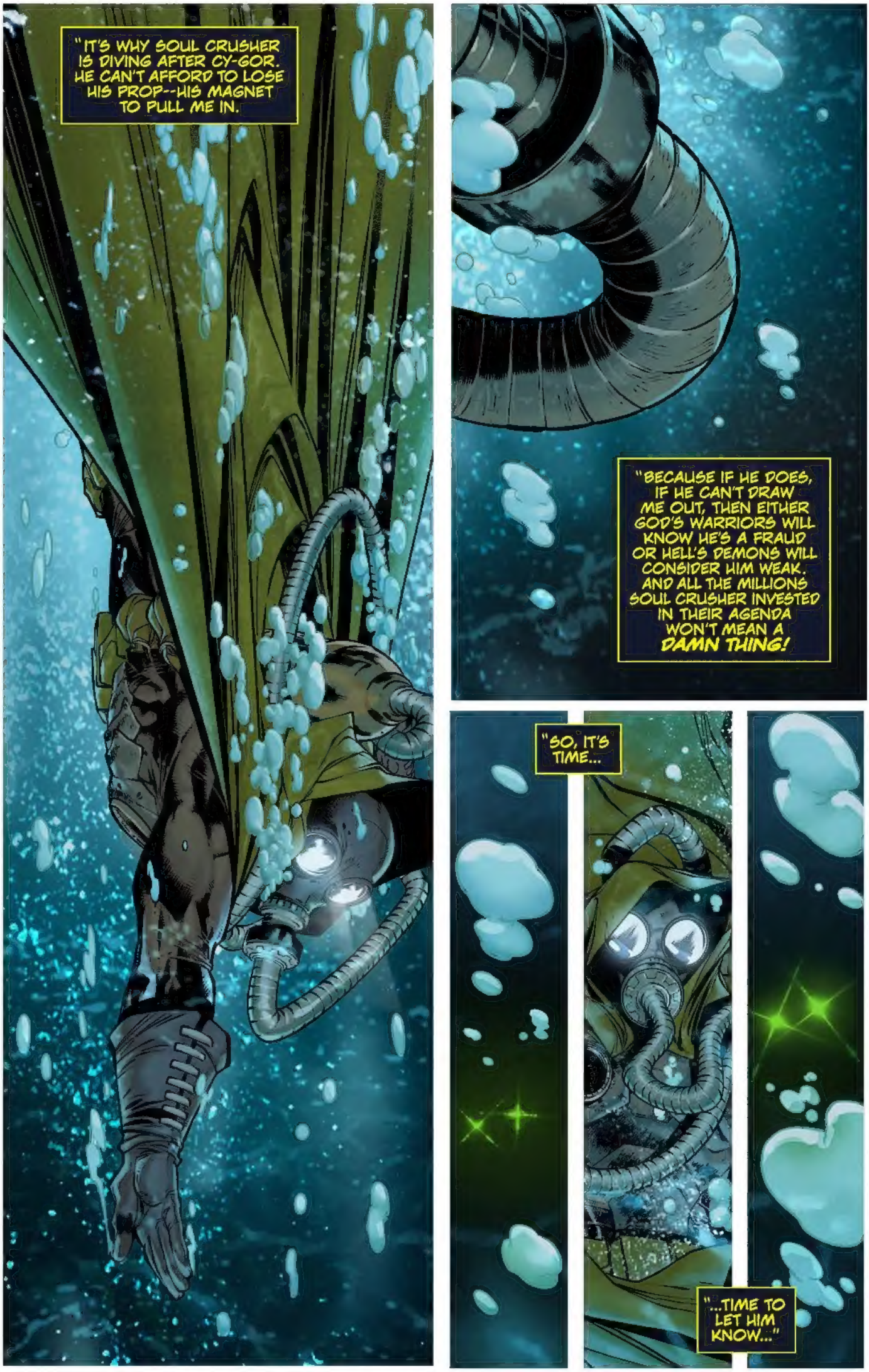
"...INSTEAD, HE KEEPS PAYING FOR THE SINS OF MY ACTIONS."

BRAKKA
BRAKKA
BRAKKA

"I WAS CERTAIN KILLING CLOWN AND THAT ANGEL WOULD FINALLY CALM THE WATERS AGAINST HEAVEN AND HELL.*
*See issue 301—Todd
CRUNCH
BAM
"SHIT, DID I GET THAT WRONG. IT'S AN ALL-OUT FREE-FOR-ALL WITH HUNDREDS OF THEM COMING THROUGH 'THE HOLE!' EVERY ONE OF THEM WANTING TO SHOW THEY'RE THE TOUGHEST SON OF A BITCH OF THE BUNCH.
"THE WAY TO DO THAT IS TO KILL ME. SO NOW, EVERYTHING IN MY LIFE IS JUST BAIT!
"CY-GOR IS NO EXCEPTION."

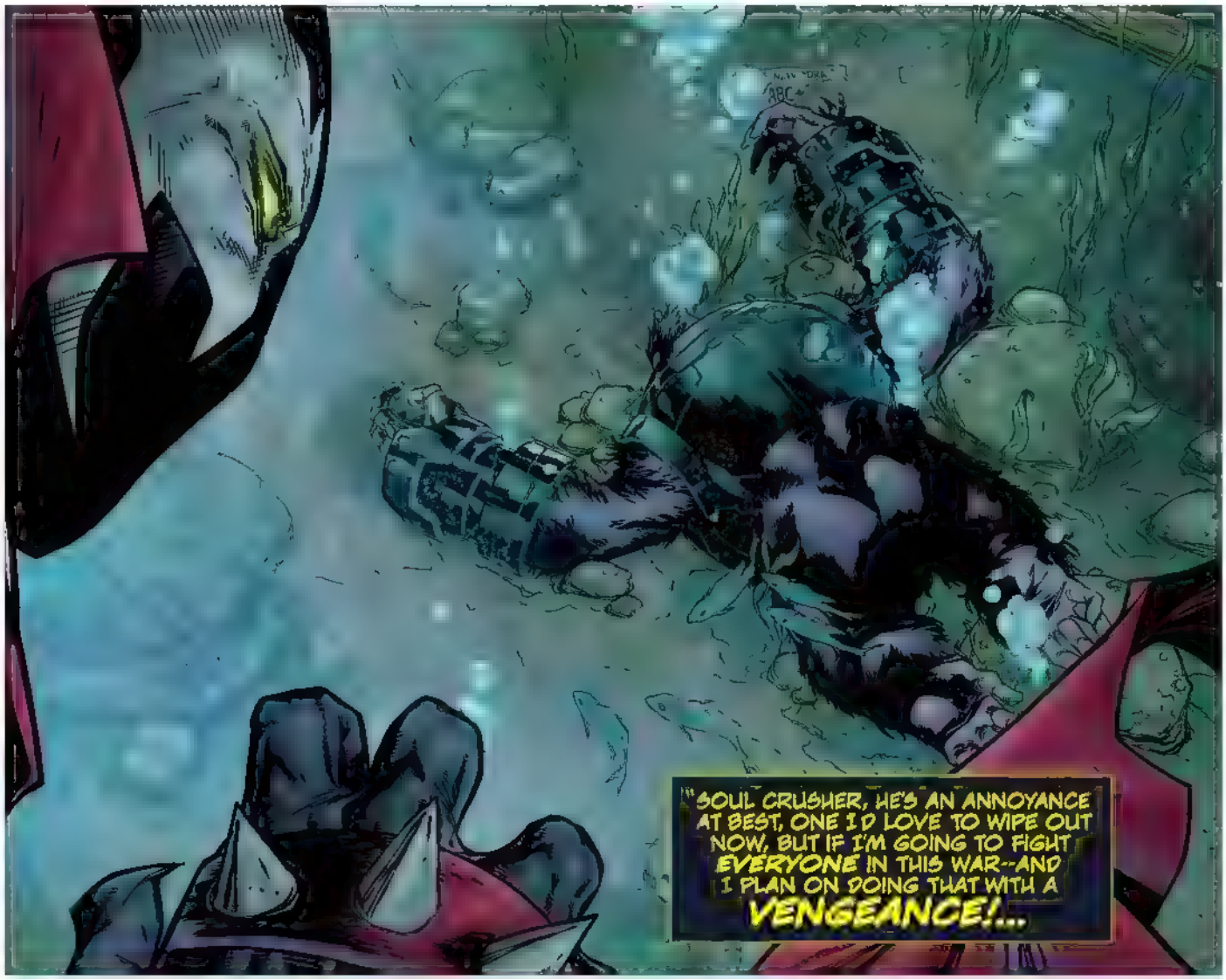
"AND THE WORST PART..?
DELTA BASE, THE TARGET IS FREE! DO YOU READ?!
"WE HUMANS HAVE JOINED THE FRAY!
LET'S SEE IF WE CAN SEND A FLARE SIGNAL FOR YOUR BOSS.
"CY-GOR IS JUST A PROP TO THIS TWISTED MADMAN. HE DOESN'T CARE HOW MUCH DAMAGE HIS AUGMENTED TECH-SUIT MIGHT CAUSE.
"BECAUSE THE GOAL ISN'T ABOUT WHETHER A PROP LIVES OR DIES--OR IF IT HAS ENOUGH OXYGEN TO BREATHE."
THIS IS GOING TO END SOONER THAN I THOUGHT.

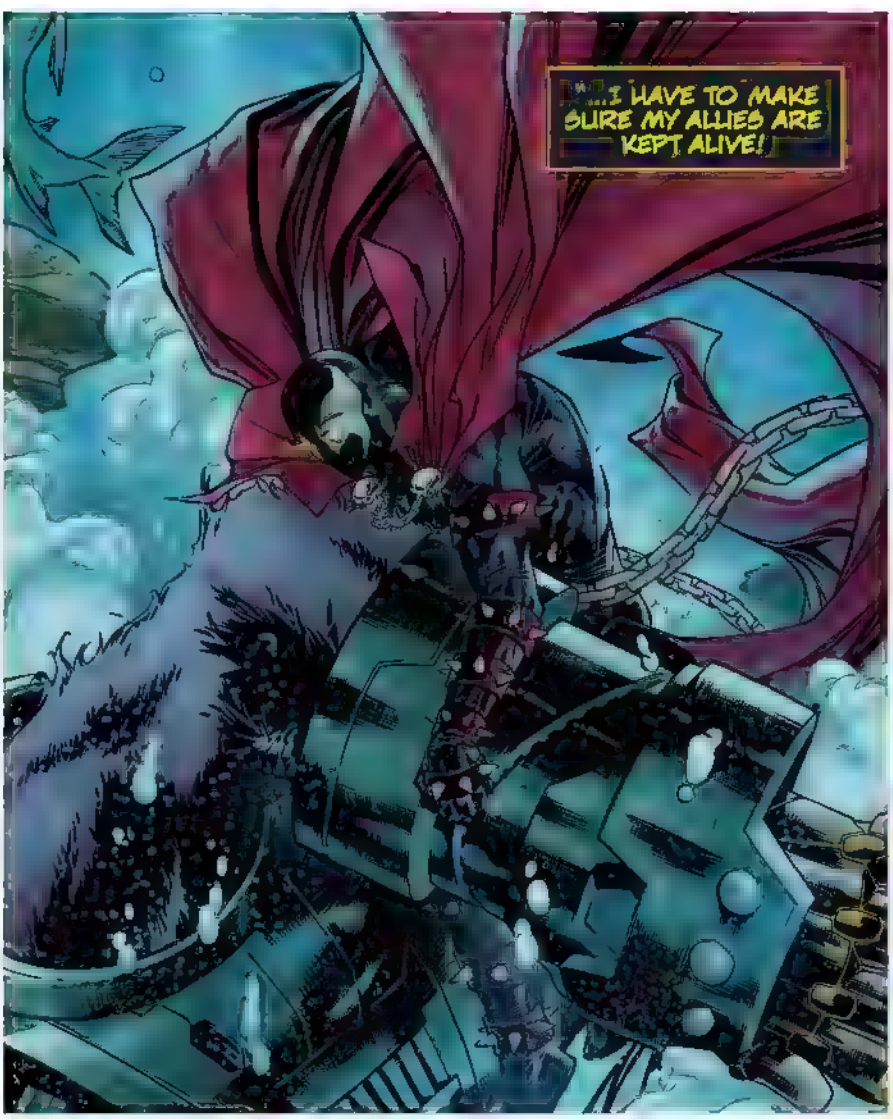
"NONE OF THAT MATTERS.
SPLASH
5
"THE GOAL IS TO GET MY ATTENTION. PURE AND SIMPLE."
SPLASH

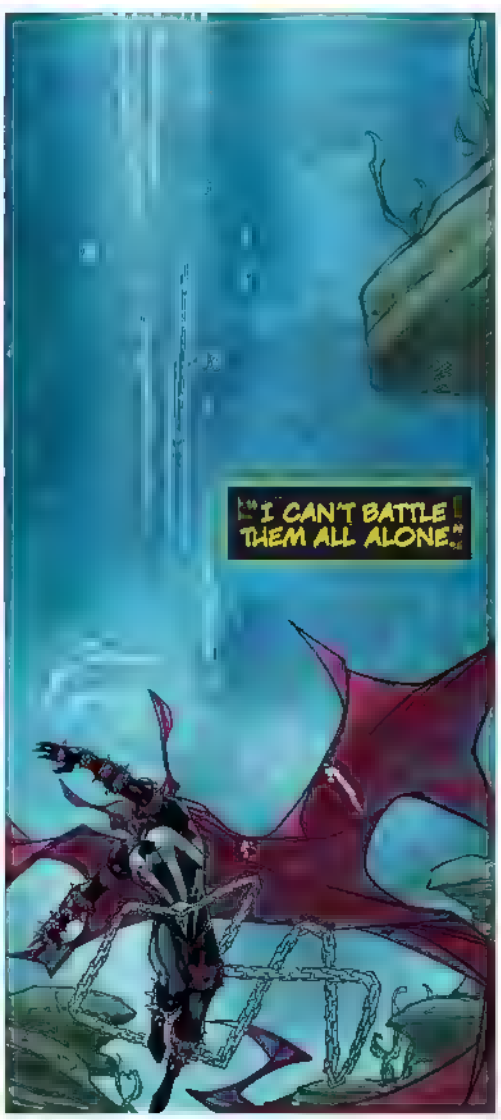

"IT'S WHY SOUL CRUSHER IS DIVING AFTER CY-GOR. HE CAN'T AFFORD TO LOSE HIS PROP--HIS MAGNET TO PULL ME IN.
"BECAUSE IF HE DOES, IF HE CAN'T DRAW ME OUT, THEN EITHER GOD'S WARRIORS WILL KNOW HE'S A FRAUD OR HELL'S DEMONS WILL CONSIDER HIM WEAK. AND ALL THE MILLIONS SOUL CRUSHER INVESTED IN THEIR AGENDA WON'T MEAN A DAMN THING!
"SO, IT'S TIME...
"...TIME TO LET HIM KNOW..."

"...THAT HE'S SUCCEEDED IN HIS GOAL, FAR BEYOND WHAT HE COULD HAVE IMAGINED!
"AND I DON'T GIVE A DAMN ANYMORE THAT THIS ENEMY IS JUST HUMAN!"

"HE'S LUCKY, THAT FOR THE MOMENT, HE'S PROTECTED BY HIS MILITARY GRADE TECH.
HAMMER AWAY, YOU'RE NOT GETTING PAST THESE SHIELDS!
AND IF YOU CAN'T DO THAT, I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU GOT OFF OMEGA ISLAND. I THOUGHT THE NON-HUMANS WERE SUPPOSED TO BE BETTER THAN US! BUT IF THEY COULDN'T GET YOU TO UNLOCK THE 'DEAD ZONES,' I'LL SHOW THEM A HUMAN IS SMARTER THAN ALL OF THEM!
"HE WANTS INTO THE 'DEAD ZONE' TOO?
COME BACK! WE'RE NOT FINISHED!
"THEY ALL KEEP MAKING THE SAME MISTAKE, THINKING SOMEHOW, THEY'RE THE ONLY ONES WITH A MISSION."

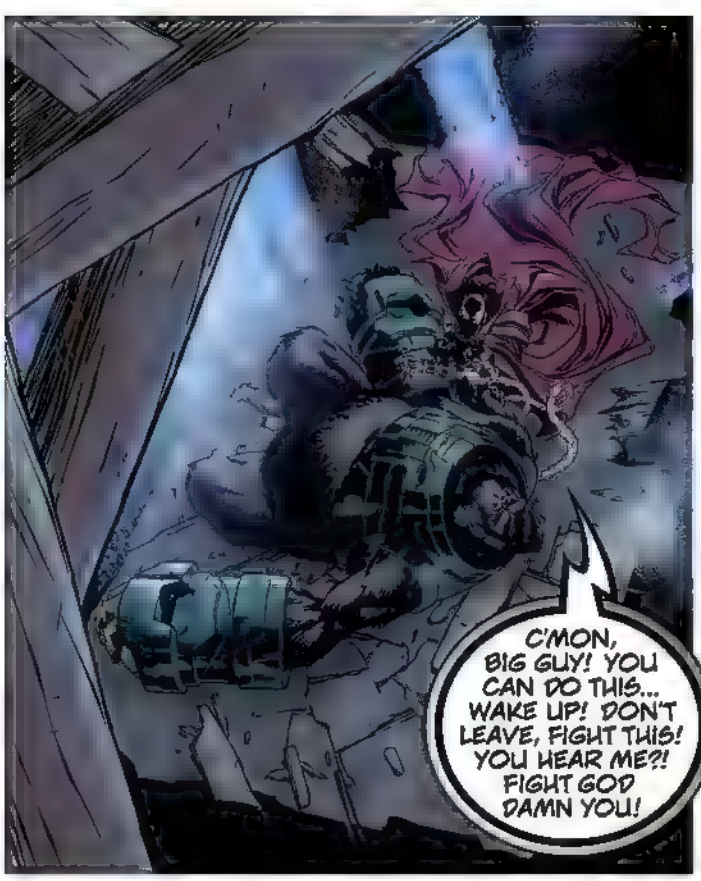

"SOUL CRUSHER, HE'S AN ANNOYANCE AT BEST, ONE I'D LOVE TO WIPE OUT NOW, BUT IF I'M GOING TO FIGHT EVERYONE IN THIS WAR--AND I PLAN ON DOING THAT WITH A VENGEANCE!..."


"...I HAVE TO MAKE SURE MY ALLIES ARE KEPT ALIVE!


"I CAN'T BATTLE THEM ALL ALONE."

KRAK
"A FEW YEARS AGO, MAYBE I COULD. NOT NOW. THERE'S TOO MANY AND THEY'RE TOO UNPREDICTABLE. AND THE THING THAT SCARES ME, IS SOME DON'T GIVE A SHIT ABOUT HUMANS.
"SO, ME WASTING MY TIME HERE IS GIVING THEM A CHANCE TO DO SOMETHING SADISTIC ELSEWHERE!
"I'LL DRAG CY-GOR OUT OF HERE ONCE I FIND A SHADOW TO TRANSPORT IN."

CY-GOR?!
CY-GOR, ARE YOU OKAY?
I'M SORRY, I DIDN'T HAVE A CHOICE, I DIDN'T KNOW HOW LONG YOU COULD BREATHE UNDERWATER.
SPAWN ROLLS HIM TO HIS BACK.

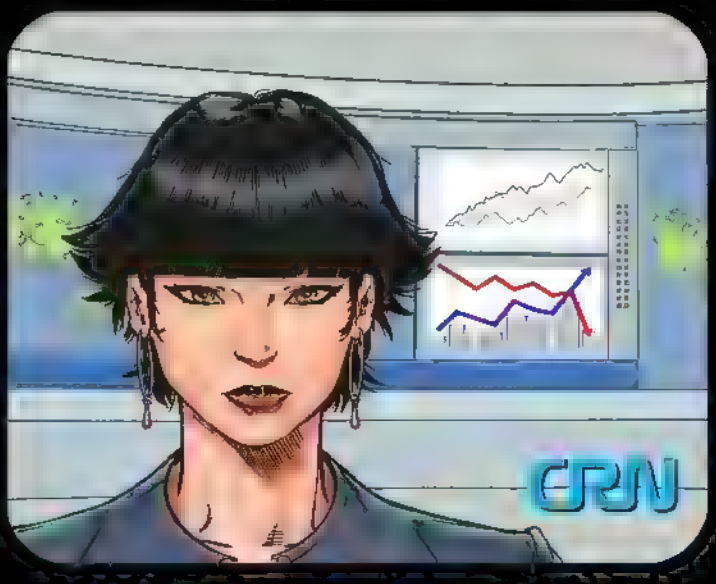

C'MON, BIG GUY! YOU CAN DO THIS... WAKE UP! DON'T LEAVE, FIGHT THIS! YOU HEAR ME?! FIGHT GOD DAMN YOU!

GOING BACK TO HIS MILITARY DAYS, EVERY SOLDIER IS TAUGHT IF POSSIBLE, YOU NEVER LEAVE A SOLDIER BEHIND SPAWN'S ALREADY GUILT RIDDEN HE DIDN'T FOLLOW THAT CREED WITH OVERT KIL AND MONOLITH

THE CYBERNETIC GORILLA OPENS HIS EYES BARELY

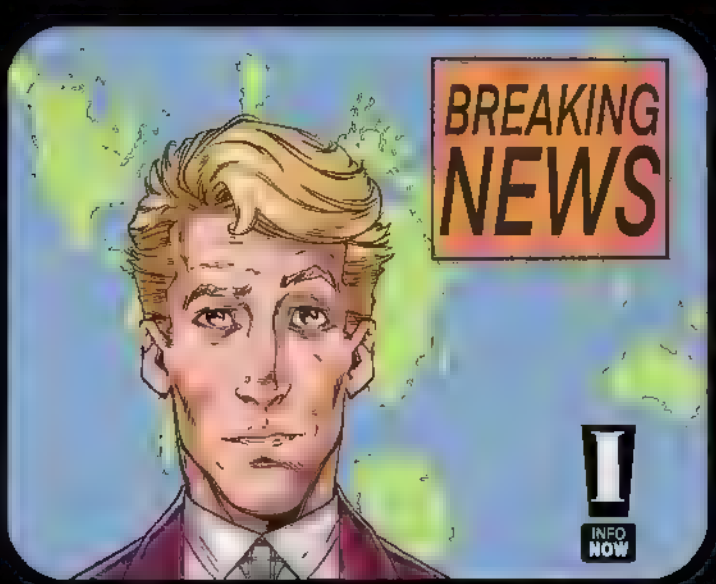
I THOUGHT I LOST YOU THERE FOR A MOMENT. HOW YOU FEELING? CAN YOU STAND?
TIRED.
I KNOW YOU ARE.
LETS GET YOU OUT OF HERE, YOU BEEN THROUGH ENOUGH. YOU NEED SOME REST.
ZAKK
HE'S GOING NOWHERE! NOT 'TIL YOU GIVE ME WHAT I NEED!

SPAWN, AGAINST HIS BEST INSTINCTS, TURNED AWAY FROM THIS MADMAN ONCE. HE'S WON'T DO THAT AGAIN!
YOU'RE A DEAD MAN!
SOUL CRUSHER DOESN'T FLINCH AS HE MAKES HIS ATTACK
AND I HEAR YOU HATE LIGHT.
KNOWING THE LESS DARKNESS THE LESS POWERFUL SPAWN IS, HE HITS HIM WITH BLINDING FORCE



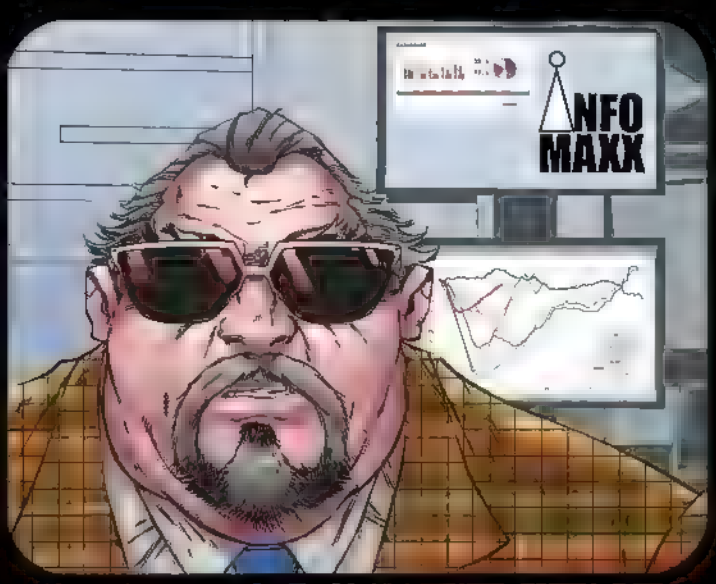
IN FINANCIAL NEWS, NEARLY THREE POINT SEVEN TRILLION DOLLARS HAS RECENTLY BEEN INVESTED INTO COUNTRIES BY OTHER COUNTRIES WHICH, UNTIL RECENTLY, HAD BEEN THEIR BITTER RIVALS. A GROWING NUMBER OF ECONOMISTS AND HEDGE FUND MANAGERS ARE VOICING CAUTIOUS OPTIMISM IN THIS SUDDEN SURGE IN GLOBAL RESTRUCTURING.

THE FINANCIAL STAGNATION BROUGHT ON BY THE PANDEMIC UNDERLINES THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS ACTION. "ECONOMIC GROWTH MAY BE HELD BACK FOR A GENERATION UNLESS SHORT-TERM TRUST CAN BE RECOGNIZED AS A GOOD INVESTMENT," SAID A SOURCE AT THE WORLD BANK, WHO SPOKE ON CONDITION OF ANONYMITY. "A UNITED FRONT CAN, FOR NOW, ACT AS A BACKBONE FOR INTERNATIONAL TREATIES AND COOPERATION."



IN *INTERNATIONAL FINANCE*, IT SEEMS AS THOUGH THERE'S NOW A DANGEROUS *SPLINTERING* TAKING EFFECT. SMALLER COUNTRIES ARE GOING BEHIND THE BACKS OF THEIR TRADITIONAL *ALLIES*, ACCEPTING FUNDS FROM THEIR TRADITIONAL *OPPRESSORS*, RISKING A LOSS OF THEIR HARD WON *AUTONOMY*. THIS COULD BEGIN A DOMINO EFFECT THAT COULD "SHAKE THE FOUNDATION OF THEIR GOVERNMENTS," ACCORDING TO A COMMENT FROM A *UNITED NATIONS OBSERVER*, WHO SPOKE TO US ON CONDITION OF *ANONYMITY*.

WHEN ASKED, *NOTED ECONOMISTS* ARE SAYING THAT THE DIVERSION OF SUCH HUGE AMOUNTS OF *MONEY* COULD SOON IMPACT STOCK MARKETS AROUND THE WORLD. HAVING GONE THROUGH A SCARE RECENTLY, MARKET CONDITION ARE STILL QUITE *FRAGILE*. *ANY* CRACKS COULD VERY POSSIBLY LEAD TO *CATASTROPHIC RESULTS*, THEY GO ON TO SAY.



REMEMBER **CHICKEN LITTLE...?** THE *SKY* WAS *ALWAYS* FALLING! AND, THAT'S WHAT THESE *ELITIST* MONEY MANAGERS AND ECONOMISTS KEEP SHOUTING, TOO! WELL, IT'S NOT A SIN TO INVEST IN OTHER COMPANIES, OR OTHER BUSINESSES, OR...*OTHER COUNTRIES!!!* CONVINCE PEOPLE THAT YOU WANT 'EM AROUND AFTER ALL, AND THEY'LL BE GRATEFUL IN NO TIME. THEN, BEFORE YOU KNOW IT, THEY'LL *OPEN THEIR WALLETS* AND *BUY YOUR STUFF* WITH THE MONEY YOU *GAVE* 'EM! WE CALL THAT **CAPITALISM** AROUND HERE...THE THING THAT BUILT *NEARLY EVERY DEVELOPED COUNTRY* ON THE MAP!

SO WHAT IF SOME OF THOSE COUNTRIES USED TO *PISS ON EACH OTHER* FROM TIME TO TIME. WHO *HASN'T* HAD A BEEF WITH THE NEIGHBORS? IT'S NATURAL! ***BUT,*** THE *LAME-STREAM MEDIA* WANTS YOU TO THINK THAT BILLIONAIRES DON'T KNOW WHAT THEY'RE DOING. ***REALLY?!*** THEY GIVE SOME POOR SLOB NATION A STACK OF MONEY AND HIT 'EM LATER FOR PENALTIES AND INTEREST!! ***SWEET!*** HOW DO YOU THINK THEY BECAME BILLIONAIRES IN THE FIRST PLACE, *BY BEING* **FRIENDLY?**

THAT'S IT, DO US BOTH A FAVOR AND STAY DOWN!
"HE'S GETTING COCKY...THAT'S GOOD.
"HIS COSTUME MAY BE ABLE TO BLOCK MY CAPE, BUT IF I COME AT ENOUGH ANGLES, IT WON'T BE ABLE TO KEEP UP.
krinkk
"THAT'LL GIVE ME AN OPENING.
"BESIDES, MY KNOCKOUT PUNCH WASN'T INTENDED TO COME FROM MY CAPE BECAUSE I KNEW HIS TECH COULDN'T READ AN AMBUSH!"

"NOW, THOUGH HE'S BEATEN, HIS ARMOR IS RUNNING ON AUTO-PILOT, THRASHING HIM AROUND LIKE A HUMAN PUPPET. THEY MAKE ME SICK--ALL OF THEM!"
A KNIFE?
YOU'RE COMING AT ME WITH A F*CKIN' KNIFE?
I'LL SKIN YOU ALIVE!
THEN WHAT?!
YOU'RE GOING TO TAKE MY COSTUME, BECOME A HERO? A SPAWN? IS THAT WHAT YOU WANT?
SLAM
SLAM
SLAM

THEN, HERE..!
TAKE IT!
YOU WANT IT SO BAD-- TAKE ALL OF IT, 'TIL IT CHOKES YOU!
THEN UNLOCK THE 'DEAD ZONES' AND DO YOUR WORST!
STOP TALKING ABOUT IT, GOD DAMN IT...
...JUST DO IT!!

YOU WANT TO BE SOME MESSIAH, IS THAT IT? A GOD, BY PREYING ON AN ANIMAL THAT WANTS NO PIECE OF THIS! WELL, YOU CAN GO TO HELL! AND THAT'S EXACTLY WHERE I PLAN ON SENDING YOU!
CY-GOR DOESN'T BELONG TO YOU!
AS SPAWN'S COSTUME SQUEEZES THE LIFE OUT OF SOUL CRUSHER, A CALLOUSED HAND PULLS HIM BACK
No.
THEN, FROM THE CORNER OF HIS EYE, SPAWN, A.K.A. LT. COLONEL AL SIMMONS, SEES SOMETHING THAT STOPS HIS HEART. THE VISION OF HIS DEAD WIFE, WANDA!
DON'T LET THEM TURN YOU UGLY, AL. DON'T GIVE THEM THAT VICTORY, YOU'RE BETTER THAN THAT. YOU'RE NOT A KILLER.
YOU'RE MY KING. ACT LIKE ONE.

Stunned by this premonition, Al retracts his symbiote. He's done with this battle. The same isn't true for his enemy.
Desperate, he makes one last attempt.
CRACK
slice
Unfortunately, he failed to realize
...he's created a second enemy, because from now on Cy-gor will be more than willing to be a part of this war. It will be one of the last thoughts Soul Crusher has before taking his last breath.
PHSSSSSSSSS

THE KING IS COMING

ISSUE #1 AUGUST

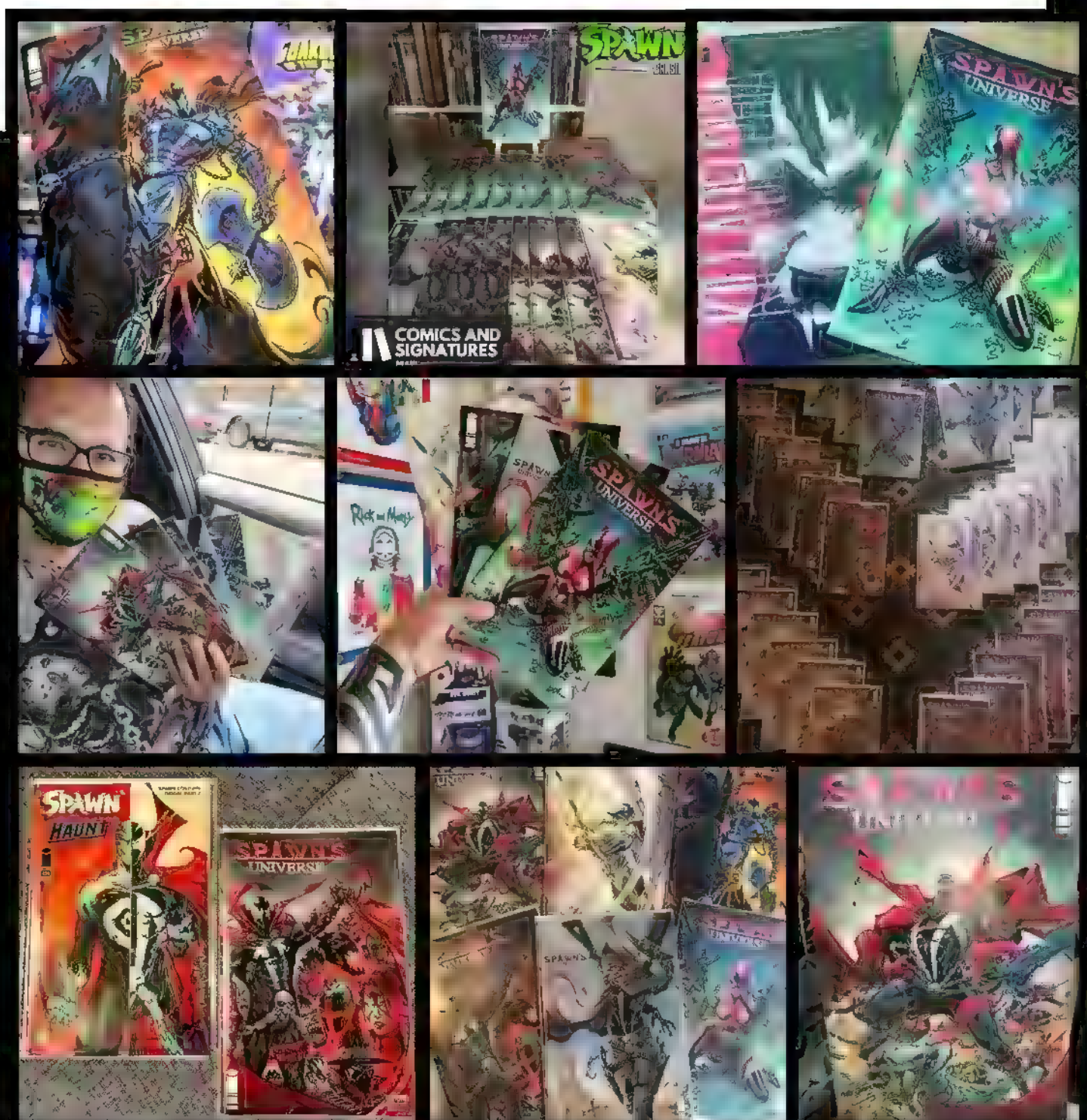
SPAWNING GROUND

PRESENTS:

THE BREAKDOWN

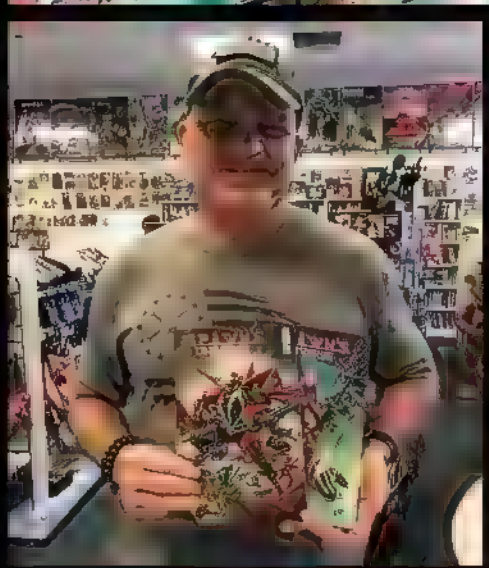
SPAWN'S UNIVERSE WAS A HUGE SUCCESS THANKS TO YOU, THE FANS!

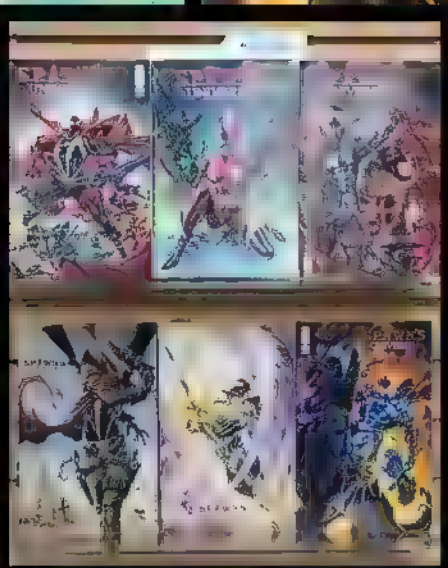
Here are some great shots of what people were picking up on Spawn's Universe #1's release day!



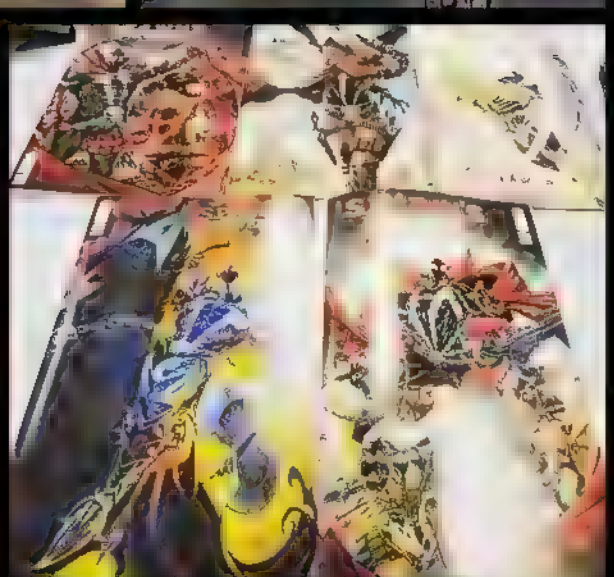
SPAWN'S
UNIVERSE

SPAWN'S
UNIVERSE





SPAWN



SPAWN'S

VELVET
ROYAL CITY
LAZARUS
EAST OF WEST
I KILL GIANTS
THE WALKING DEAD
KING CITY
SEX CRIMINALS
KILL OR BE KILLED
CURSE WORDS
RAT QUEENS
SPAWN
BLUE MONDAY
MONSTRESS
CHEW
HOWTOONS
SUNSTONE
DESCENDER
PAPER GIRLS
OCTOPUS PIE
BITCH PLANET
SAGA
PLUTONA
NAILBITER
CAMP MIDNIGHT
ODDLY NORMAL
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